



## **CLASSIC NEWS - SEPTEMBER 2025**

**President: Carolyn Hartzell**  
**Show Chair: Kathy Simmons**

**Vice President: Larry Weiner**  
**Secretary: Donna Spencer**

**Treasurer: Glenn Dean**  
**Newsletter Editor: Glenn Dean**

### **PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

#### **30<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FABULOUS 50'S BIGGER, BETTER, STRONGER**

There are few regional shows that stand the test of time. Unlike those shows whose time has come and gone, the Fabulous 50's Charity Car Show held here in Grants Pass is one of the exceptions to the rule as it celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. One of the reasons for its long staying power is the fact that you, as members of the Rogue Valley Classic Cruisers put on a show this year that embraced change by taking time to listen to both the exhibitors and attendees and implementing many of the suggestions they make.

The Fabulous 50's three-day weekend started with the Free Kickoff Show and Shine on Friday morning and afternoon where collector cars and trucks filled the Growers Market lot in downtown Grants Pass. Adding interest to the event is the free Merchant Walk through town where participants had a chance to win prizes. Later in the day from 5:00PM to 9:00PM the free Fabulous 50's American Graffiti Cruise In at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In was an overwhelming success with lots of cool cars and trucks not only in the parking lot but spilling out into the street and adjacent lots. This show provides the perfect opportunity to return to a simpler time not so long ago when enthusiasts of all ages strutted their stuff in their hot rods, muscle cars and customs, showing off their pride and joy for the world to see.

On Saturday, it was time for "The Really Big Show" as Ed Sullivan would have called it. Held at the Josephine County Fairgrounds, like everything else about the weekend, it was bigger and better than ever. For the first time in the 30-year history of the show, there was an indoor display called "**The Special Collection**" with 31 show vehicles of all kinds in a cool building. Add to that, a 20-vehicle display in the Patio under roof, along with numerous vehicles on the grass under the trees, including a large display of classic Model A Fords, courtesy of the Henry's Lady car club. There were also Corvettes from the Southern Oregon Corvette Association and a gaggle of sports cars, complements of the British Car Club. In addition, another first this year as part of the show, there was a Swap Meet and For Sale Car Corral. Add to that a large display of vehicles on the Show Field and The Midway including the Past Champions Exhibit.

As if there couldn't be more, on Sunday, the hits just kept on coming, with the free Fabulous 50's Hot Rod and Handlebars Show at the Corvette Bar and Grill in Grants Pass from 12:00PM to 4:00PM. The Fabulous 50's has grown into three full days of fun in the sun, and we're already looking forward to the 2026 Fabulous 50's.

**Carolyn Hartzell**

**Larry Weiner**

## NEW MEMBERS and THEIR CARS

Mike & Deborah Brown -		2065 Mustang Coupe
Graham Corns -	1953 Chevrolet Bel Air	1962 Ford Fairlane 500
	2007 Mini Cooper	
Timothy & Nicole Hill -	1968 Chevrolet C10 P/U	1971 Buick Riviera
	1964 Chevrolet Bel Air Wagon	
Michael & Paula Kennedy -	1967 Chevrolet Malibu	
Carleton Langley -	1971 Oldsmobile Cutless	
William Troop -	1966 Ford Mustang	1967 Ford Mustang

## MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

### Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup> Ken Burdett	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tom Houghton	2 <sup>nd</sup> Andrew Krupp
3 <sup>rd</sup> Michael Dollarhide	3 <sup>rd</sup> John Hatmaker	7 <sup>th</sup> Casey Black
9 <sup>th</sup> Gary Castle	9 <sup>th</sup> Debbie Flenniken	9 <sup>th</sup> Kirk Smith
10 <sup>th</sup> Robert Loney	11 <sup>th</sup> Ron Klopfer	11 <sup>th</sup> Jon Jordan
12 <sup>th</sup> Kelli Brown	15 <sup>th</sup> Barbara Kruger	17 <sup>th</sup> Connie Gates
17 <sup>th</sup> Carla Borup	17 <sup>th</sup> Guy Helgen	17 <sup>th</sup> Joy Westberg
19 <sup>th</sup> Diane Graham	19 <sup>th</sup> Arleen Robertson	19 <sup>th</sup> Kent Sanford
19 <sup>th</sup> Mike Shaffer	20 <sup>th</sup> Iris Hurwitz	20 <sup>th</sup> Burt Lasniewski
20 <sup>th</sup> Brent Shannon	20 <sup>th</sup> John Swartzfager	23 <sup>rd</sup> Rhonda ford
23 <sup>rd</sup> Cindy McGhee	26 <sup>th</sup> Larry Carpenter	27 <sup>th</sup> Lori Phillips
29 <sup>th</sup> David Timme		

### Anniversaries

4 <sup>TH</sup> Jack & Dottie Bishop	6 <sup>th</sup> Bill & Fleeta Lackey
8 <sup>th</sup> Dan & Aimee Dhondt	8 <sup>th</sup> Ralph & Joanne Mailloux
11 <sup>th</sup> Babe & Judy Catabiano	16 <sup>th</sup> Ron & Nancy Cook
16 <sup>th</sup> Warren & Linda Harger	29 <sup>th</sup> Gary & Carrie Castle

## CLUB MEETING ATTENDANCE REWARD FOR AUGUST

The winner of the August attendance reward of \$150 was David Sepich who was not present. Sorry David! The reward for September will be \$175.

## 50/50 WINNER FOR

The 50/50 Pot was for \$136 and the winner was Andy Speziale. Congratulations Andy!

# Mark your calendars for Car Club Events

**Udders Ice Cream** every Friday night – 1893 NE 7th St, G.P. in Diamond Home Improvement parking lot. Meet us there around 6 pm. Other Car Clubs also participate. Weather permitting!



**Cars & Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-in** ... Third Saturday of every month – 9-11 AM May thru September. Weather permitting. Join us to socialize and enjoy the cars.



**Medford Cars and Coffee** . . . every Saturday morning –2676 E Barnett Rd. Info: [medfordcarsncoffee.com](http://medfordcarsncoffee.com) Join us to socialize and enjoy the cars at Southern Oregon Orthopedics, behind the Starbucks 8-9:30 AM. Weather permitting!

**Cave Junction Senior Center** on the first Saturday of every month

Meet at Albertson's Allen Creek Road location at 8:45 AM and cruise down together. All-you-can-eat breakfast (only \$9) includes eggs, hash browns, pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, coffee and juice.



## FABULOUS 50'S AMERICAN GRAFFITI SHOW AT JIMMY'S CLASSIC DRIVE-IN



## FABULOUS 50'S HOT RODS & HANDLEBARS AT CORVETTE BAR & GRILL





## RVCC HAWAIIAN BBQ PICNIC







PRESENTS

# Cars & Coffee



2025 SCHEDULE

***JIMMY'S CLASSIC DRIVE-IN***  
***515 NE E ST., GRANTS PASS***

**MUSCLE CARS**

**HOT RODS**

**CORVETTES**

**CLASSICS**

**CUSTOMS**

**TRUCKS**

**EXOTICS**

MAY 17

JUNE 21

JULY 19

AUG 16

SEPT 20

OCT 18

**Jimmy's**  
*Classic*  
— DRIVE-IN —

**EVERY THIRD SATURDAY**  
**9AM — 11AM**

## ROGUE VALLEY CLASSIC CRUISERS 2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

### AUGUST

- 10 Grants Pass RVCC Hawaiian Luau / BBQ Picnic and Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
- 16 Grants Pass RVCC Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 11:00AM  
Address: 515 NE E St
- 23 Grants Pass RVCC Country Cruise and Car Show at Schultz Glory Oaks Vinyards  
Address: 755 Slagle Creek Rd.

### SEPTEMBER

- 6 Cave Junction Cruise to Breakfast Cave Junction Senior Center, 520 E River St.
- 6 Klamath Falls RVCC Cruise to Lake of the Woods Car Show
- 10 Grants Pass The Suites Invitational Mini Car Show 1:00PM– 3:00PM Limited to 20 RVCC Vehicles
- 13 Medford Rogue Valley Manor Rods and Rides Car Show 10:AM – 1:30PM
- 13 Pottsville Rat Rod Rukkus
- 14 Grants Pass RVCC Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
- 20 Grants Pass RVCC Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 11:00AM  
Address: 515 NE E St

### OCTOBER

- 4 Grants Pass RVCC 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Color Hot Rod Poker Run
- 12 Grants Pass RVCC Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange and RVCC Silent Auction
- 18 Grants Pass RVCC Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 11:00AM  
Address: 515 NE E St Note: This is the last RVCC Cars and Coffee of the year.

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Cave Junction Cruise to Breakfast Cave Junction Senior Center, 520 E River St.
- 9 Grants Pass RVCC Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
- 22 Grants Pass RVCC Lunch Social at Wild River Time: 2:00 PM 595 NE E St., Grants Pass
- 29 Grants Pass RVCC Toys for Tots Cruise Followed by Lunch at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In

### DECEMBER

- 6 Cave Junction Cruise to Breakfast Cave Junction Senior Center, 520 E River St.
- 14 Grants Pass RVCC Christmas Party and Meeting at Fruitdale Grange





**RVCC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE  
SIGN UP THREE, GET YOURS FREE!**

*It's fun and easy. Just sign up three new members  
this year and your dues for 2026 are free!*

**MAKE 2025 RVCC BEST YEAR YET  
CALL LARRY WEINER AT 760-612-6365 TODAY**



# GET 3 GET YOURS FREE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

## RVCC AMBASSADORS & NEW MEMBERS

<u>AMBASSADOR</u>	<u>NEW MEMBERS</u>	<u>JOINED</u>
SWANNY SWANSON	Tom Hanson Ron Lopes RVCC Gift Card TBD	Date: 7/25/2024 Date: 7/25/2024 Date: 12/11/2024
JIM STRUFFERT	Bruce Benton David Sepich Mark Peterson	Date: 1/15/2025 Date: 2/26/2025 Date: 2/26/2025
DEBBIE WEINER	Toni Webb Sid Pacheco Noel Wall	Date: 1/22/2025 Date: 2/14/2025 Date: 4/5/2025
KENT SANFORD	Arleen Robertson Lynda Smith Mark Mansfield	Date: 5/9/2024 Date: 7/27/2024 Date: 4/26/2025
HAL DESILVA	Carey Creech Edward Whitfield Ken Burdett	Date: 3/12/2025 Date: 5/24/2025 Date: 5/24/2025
RAYMOND ROSA	Dorian LaFlamme Noel Wall Thomas Gilliland	Date: 5/18/2025 Date: 6/8/2025 Date: 6/25/2025
MICHAEL DOLLARHIDE	Duey Mayfield Graham Corns Timothy Hill	Date: 6/29/2025 Date: 7/25/2025 Date: 7/27/2025
ED HILL	Paul Flenniken 2 RVCC Gift Cards TBD	Date: 1/14/2025 Date: 12/23/2024
TOM GARLAND	Ed Hill RVCC Gift Card TBD	Date: 2/6/2024 Date: 11/10/2024
DAWN HANEY	Pete Engelhorn	Date: 5/5/2024
DAVE CARR	Kent Sanford	Date: 4/28/2024
JEFF FLOYD	Christopher Evans	Date: 5/18/2024
KATHY SIMMONS	Sandy Worthington	Date: 7/15/2024
MYKE WINGETT	Alex Bushyhead	Date: 7/27/2024
ANDY LOVATO	Russ Black	Date: 8/5/2024
RAYMOND MARSTON	Raymond Rosa	Date: 10/20/2024
GLENN DEAN	Dennis Hank	Date: 11/10/2024
DAN YADON	Ari Omessi JW Ohler	Date: 1/10/2025 Date: 4/5/2025
DARIN SCHNEIDER	Eran Schneider	Date: 1/16/2025

PAUL KRUGER	Mark Stiles Jim Nierhake	Date: 12/4/2024 Date: 12/4/2024
DEAN FREEMAN	RVCC Gift Card TBD	Date: 12/8/2024
CAROLYN HARTZELL	Allan Elliott John Hatmaker	Date: 12/18/2024 Date: 6/27/2025
WARREN HARGER	Monika Wyatt	Date: 1/31/2025
TOM SPENCER	Rick Johnson John Harmon	Date: 2/8/2025 Date: 5/22/2025
KIRK SMITH	Greg Smith	Date: 5/24/2025
BRUCE READ	Steve Phillips	Date: 5/24/2025
LARRY WEINER	Bob Baumunk Ralph Mailloux	Date: 5/30/2025 Date: 7/29/2025
JOHN WEINRICH	Ken Heindsmann	Date: 6/7/2025
HEATHER MCALPINE	Tony Meadows	Date: 6/25/2025
JIM STEARNS	Dan Gilkison	Date: 6/29/2025
RALPH KRUSE	Carleton Langley	Date: 7/21/2025
MARK BOTELLO	William Troop Mike Brown	Date: 7/26,2025 Date: 7/26/2025
PENNEY REED	Michael Kennedy	Date: 7/26/2025



# MEMBERSHIP REWARDS PROGRAM

The purpose of this program is to reward club members with discounts at participating local merchants. Each member receives an RVCC Membership Rewards Card. Carry the RVCC Membership Rewards Card in your wallet. When making a purchase at a participating merchant, simply show them your membership card to receive your discount. The RVCC Membership Rewards program provides another value to members, one that can quite literally cover the cost of your yearly dues as a result of savings, in some cases with just a few purchases. Watch this list grow as more companies join this exciting new program.

## JIMMY'S CLASSIC DRIVE-IN

515 NE E St. Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-479-3850  
www.jimmysgp.com Authentic 50's Food in a 1950's Era Drive-In Restaurant **10% Discount**

## TLC CREATIONS

227 SE 6<sup>th</sup> St. Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-295-8654  
www.tlccreations.live Custom Embroidery, Clothing and Unique Gifts **10% Discount**

## GG SUGARPLUM'S BAKESHOP

224 SE 6<sup>th</sup> St. Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-944-7528  
www.ggsugarplums@yahoo.com Cupcakes, Cookies, Sweet Treats **10% Discount**

## LOGAN DESIGN

707 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-474-7127 www.oregonsigns.com  
Signs, Banners, Business Cards, Stationary, Vehicle Graphics, Apparel **10% Discount**

## THE APPRAISER GUYS

3748 Calle Vista Dr. Medford, OR 97504 Phone: 855-202-1172 www.appraiserguys.com  
Vehicle Appraisals Contacts: Bill Cobb or Jim Mohatt **10% Discount**

## UDDERS ICE CREAM & GELATO

1893 ne 7<sup>TH</sup> St. Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-507-1248 [hello@uddersic.com](mailto:hello@uddersic.com)  
Ice Cream and Gelato **10% Discount**

## CORVETTE BAR AND GRILL

1831 NE 6<sup>th</sup> St, Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-226-2856 **10% Discount**

## THE GLASS FORGE

501 SW G St., Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-955-0815226-2856 **10% Discount**  
Specializing in Venetian-style art glass.  
The Glass Forge produces a wide variety of functional and artistic glass objects

## SANDI'S CANDIES AND FUDGERY

145 SW G St. Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 541-955.9112 **10% Discount**  
Famous for gourmet chocolates, fudge , truffles and toffee!

## MR. NORM'S ORIGINAL GRAND SPAULDING SPEED SHOP

Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 760-612-6365 www.mrnorms.com  
2008 – 2023 Challenger Parts & Accessories and Limited Edition Vehicles **Variable Discount**

## GDMI NAPA STORES

www.napaonline.com Auto and Truck Parts **Variable Discount**  
Yreka Crescent City Eureka Grants Pass Fortuna  
White City Arcata Medford Mt. Shasta Myrtle Creek  
Weed Shady Cove Cave Junction Canyonville Ashland Phoenix

# Feature Car of the Month

## Chris & Pauline Lehuiede's 1968 Dodge Charger R/T

This month's feature car, the Lehuiede's Charger R/T, is a beautifully restored muscle car. But it's the story that is the most interesting part of this car. This is Chris' first car, so he's had it for over 40 years. Except for that year when it was stolen.

When Chris was 14 he saw the movie Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry. That's when he decided his first car had to be a Dodge Charger. Every day on the way to school he passed a car under a tarp, and the more he looked at it, the more the shape looked like a Dodge Charger. When he finally saw the owner outside, he asked if it was a Charger. Yes, it was. And is it for sale? Yes, it was. Even though the car was only about 10 years old, it didn't run. Chris gave the man \$450, all the money he'd saved, and he and his dad pushed it home.

Chris knew he needed a job to fix up his car, so he lied about his age and got a job at the mall. By the time he was 16 and got his driver's license, the car was drivable. He built a radical engine (that sounded like a funny car) and drove it like his heroes on the TV show The Dukes of Hazzard. He collected 6 tickets in his first six months of driving, and received a letter from the DMV stating his license would be suspended after the next ticket. He reluctantly parked his dream car and bought a 4-door Chevy Nova—a 'grandma' car. His strategy worked--he didn't get pulled over once in the Nova.

Chris wanted to get the Charger painted. After checking around, he took it to a body shop that worked on Ferrari's and other high end cars. He left a deposit and the shop started work, getting the car in primer. Chris periodically stopped by the shop to monitor progress. Then one day he went to the shop and it was closed, empty, and all of the cars were gone, including his Charger. He filed a police report, then heard nothing.

About a year later Chris was driving to work, taking the same route he took every day. He spotted a Charger on the opposite side of the street and turned around to check it out. When he saw the sticker in the back window he knew it was his missing car! He quickly found a pay phone (pre- cell phone times) and called the police—and hoped the car would still be there when he got back. It was—and the police arrived. They verified it was Chris's car and searched the neighborhood in vain for the driver. Chris got to take his Charger back home!

About 6 months later the District Attorney called. They'd caught the body shop owner and needed Chris to identify him in court. The thief had to work in prison and make restitution to Chris—he received 2 or 3 checks for about \$130.

In about 1995, Chris decided it was time to restore the car. He did an exceedingly correct restoration using all matching numbers parts with correct date codes. He made a couple of very lucky finds while searching for correct parts. He found a new air cleaner at a dealer, and the correct carburetor at Pep Boys! But all did not go smoothly. When the mechanical portion of the resto was done, Chris took it for a test drive. Things were going fine until the rear end locked up after only a few miles of driving sending the Charger skidding across the road and almost flipping. Investigation showed that the mechanic that rebuilt the rear end forgot to put in oil. The rear end was completely ruined—even the housing was unusable and had to be replaced.

After the mechanicals were complete, the car was painted and upholstered. When a small hole that was discovered was being welded up, the car caught fire. The carpet, dashboard, wiring and windshield were all severely damaged. After this, Chris couldn't bear to look at the car and sent it to friend to be repaired.

Now, the car is as good, or better, than new. The Charger is an original, numbers matching 440 4-barrel car with an automatic transmission. Its options include air conditioning, tinted windows, and turn signals in the hood. Front disc brakes were added for drivability, the only deviation from stock. This car was the beginning of Chris & Pauline's Mopar obsession.



